

January 22, 2003

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Re: **Memorandum of Ex Parte Communication**
CC Docket No. 98-67, Telecommunications Relay Services and
Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and
Speech Disabilities

On January 22, 2003, Judith Harkins, Ph.D.(Director) and Cary Barbin (Senior Research Engineer), of Gallaudet University's Technology Access Program (TAP) met with Cheryl King, Greg Hlibok and Pam Gregory of the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau's Disability Rights Office, and Jerry Stanshine of the Office of Engineering and Technology. TAP described barriers that persons with hearing and speech disabilities face when using telephony. TAP discussed interrupt capabilities for TTYs, TRS Caller ID, TRS as a possible gateway for various text technologies in use, issues surrounding network technologies in relation to provision of such services as connecting seamlessly from the TRS to the caller's local PSAP. TAP also discussed how Telecommunications Relay Services may develop as technology matures.

Pursuant to Section 1.12 of the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* is being electronically filed. I ask that this *ex parte* be recognized with the proceeding identified above.

Please call me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Judith Harkins, Ph.D.
Director
Technology Access Program

cc: Cheryl King
Greg Hlibok
Jerry Stanshine
Pam Gregory